

## March 2021 Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

CTO: 7:02 PM

**Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have suspended our regular monthly Membership Meetings. Our Board meetings will be conducted via Zoom conference.**

**Attending:** Dunn, Fauber, Frankenfield, Gustafson, Hart, Logue, Menendez, Penaranda, Stanley

**Minutes:** The February Minutes were accepted with two minor corrections. Minutes are available on the Ruritan website.

**Treasurer's Report:** D. Stanley provided a financial report for March. We had \$42,179.99 (up \$6K) in our checking account; our T. Rowe Price account had \$288,737.90 (down \$12K) for a current assets total of \$330,646.89. Net income for the quarter was \$32,065.28. Member dues: no one is currently delinquent by more than \$40. P. Gustafson asked if member dues could be paid any other way than by check. Don said payments could be made via PayPal or Venmo. Financial Report was accepted.

Don reported that trash continues to do well, up about \$3,700 over budget in receipts and down \$500 in expenses. He was able to return the commemorative coins and a wedding ring found in the cash box on a previous week to the owner. He also reported that we received the first funds from Amazon Smile in the amount of \$43.24; the Board passed a motion to designate this amount to the Boy Scouts, but to determine future recipients on a case-by-case basis.

Don also updated the Board on several other issues: 1) the Spring newsletter will be a little more expensive by about \$500 because of an increased page count to 20 pages; 2) he will set up a new account in the budget for 2021 GiveChoose to enable tracking of funds received; 3) 2020 tax return due on May 15 (later extended to November 15)—he will send return to Pres. Menendez for review before submitting.

### **Compactor/Recycling Subcommittee Status Report:**

P. Gustafson reported that trash continues to go well in general, but recycling is still often an issue.

He inquired about obtaining a third container for recyclables, but our PoC (T. Hays) did not support this because of the requirement to move the bins each week since we do not have a permanent site for them. Hays said he was putting out bids for a new vendor to transport the bins. P. Gustafson noted that we may have to lobby the Board of Supervisors if we cannot come to an acceptable resolution of this issue.

### **Finance Committee and Directors and Officers Liability Insurance and Protection of Scholarship Funds:**

The Board continued the discussion about the management of our scholarship funds by the Community Foundation. Pro: sets up a method to continue the scholarship program into the future should we disband the club; Con: less income and less control over the funds. No final decision was reached.

### **GiveChoose Status:**

P. Logue reported that we reached our goal to raise \$20K via GiveChoose this year, primarily due to several large donors, but also a larger number of total donors, although we did not reach our goal of 100 total donors. We will receive the balance of the funds in 60 days.

### **Meeting with County Supervisor Caleb Kershner:**

We have confirmed a meeting with Kershner for April 12<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. at Fabboli Vineyards. P. Gustafson and Pres. Menendez will send an agenda to Kershner's office in advance. Issues for discussion include recycling, broadband service, the new drone facility, and the large wells being drilled on Limestone School Rd., and the water and septic connection of the old firehouse to the school, for which a solution is still needed.

### **General Membership Meetings, Annual Picnic, and Banquet:**

D. Fabboli has agreed to host the May general membership meeting and will consider continuing to host going forward. If the holiday event is held at Fabboli's, we will need a separate license to serve alcohol, which costs \$55 per event. The picnic will be held this year at Pres. Menendez' home on St. Clair Rd. (a pool with lifeguard will be available for use for this event!). The picnic is scheduled for June 5<sup>th</sup>; raindate June 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Committee Assignments for Next Fiscal Year:**

Pres. Menendez will recirculate the assignments. The Board asks members to review these and contact AI if you would like to make a change.

**Citizen of the Year Award:**

The Board approved a motion to select Susan Lee, longtime Lucketts resident, as the recipient of our 2020 Citizen of the Year award. She is featured in the Spring *Lucketts News & Notes* newsletter. This article discusses her many contributions to our community over the years. Congratulations, Susan!

**Youth Development Grant to Lucketts Elementary PTA:**

The Board passed a motion to approve the request from the LES PTA for a Youth Development Grant in the amount of \$9,500 to help fund the purchase of playground equipment at the school for the kindergarten and younger grade students.

**Water Extraction at Droumavalla Farm:**

The Board discussed the current drilling of five 1,000 ft. wells at Droumavalla Farm along Limestone School Road for the ostensible purpose of selling one million gallons of water a month to various water bottling companies. Any well pumping 10,000 gallons of water per minute requires zoning approval and perhaps a full hydro study; however, no studies have been conducted. Three wells have been dug to date, with approvals pending for two more, but with no apparent look at the effects on the surrounding aquifer. Results of a meeting in March with county representatives from the health, zoning, and permitting departments were 1) the county has not issued a health permit to date; 2) grading permits were not issued; and 3) zoning issues were not considered. Neighbors and Lucketts residents have voiced concerns about this project and have formed a citizens group that has retained an attorney, Beth McClain, to pursue legal options. The Board invited J. Frankenfield to comment and report on this issue; Jay said that the county health department cannot deny permits; that the Building and Development department has not yet issued any grading permits; and that the Zoning department has seen no violations yet.

Concerns focus on the fact that these wells are in the limestone overlay district and possibly within the karst geological area, thereby increasing the possibility of the occurrence of sinkholes if a lot of water is extracted. Apparently, this landowner can

ask for special exceptions and the county can require public comment, but no stringent drawdown rules on water quantities are in effect. The Board believes that the county should force ecological studies before allowing this project to continue much farther, but so far, no action has been taken to require environmental impact studies. J. Frankenfield will lead our Environmental Committee in studying these issues further and will report back to the Board and the membership.

**Drone Facility on Taylorstown Road:**

A training facility for drone operations is being developed on a property on Taylorstown Rd. Apparently, this property was purchased by Scott Kuhn (son of Chuck Kuhn), of Airmont Properties, who sold it to Treetop Properties. A company called Xelevate is developing this training site. Concerned neighbors are looking at the possible noise and safety issues associated with this project, but no further information is available at this time.

**Announcements:**

1. The Club will hold an in-person General Membership Meeting on May 11<sup>th</sup> at Fabboli Vineyards. This is the first in-person meeting since the covid-19 situation ended our usual meetings. This meeting may be held outdoors, weather permitting.
2. P. Logue has the certificates to recognize the young people who volunteered for GiveChoose. She will deliver these awards personally to the recipients.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

*Submitted by Elizabeth Penaranda, Secretary*